

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A seismic isolation bearing comprises a lower plate, an upper plate, and a cylindrical roller in rolling contact with an upwardly facing bearing surface of the lower plate and a downwardly facing surface of the upper plate. The lower plate is fixable to a base, while the upper plate is fixable to a superstructure, ~~for example a bridge deck~~. One or both bearing surfaces are sloped to form a central trough at which the cylindrical roller resides under normal weight of the superstructure, and toward which the roller is biased when relative displacement between the ~~lower and upper~~ plates occurs ~~to provide a constant restoring force~~. A pair of sidewall members are fixed to the lower plate to withstand strong forces directed laterally with respect to the isolation axis along which rolling displacement occurs, and a pair of sliding guides carried one at each end of the roller provide dry frictional damping as they engage an inner wall surface of a corresponding sidewall member. ~~The isolation bearing preferably comprises a locking mechanism that prevents relative displacement under normal non seismic horizontal loading, but allows the bearing to function as intended under seismic loading. Visco elastic or viscous dampers, linear springs, and nonlinear springs such as hardening springs are preferably mounted between the lower and upper plates to reduce bearing displacement, dissipate energy, and otherwise adjust periodic motion characteristics of the bearing. Further embodiments providing isolation along orthogonal X and Y axes, as well as guidance mechanisms for maintaining roller alignment, are also disclosed.~~

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following rewritten paragraph of like number:

[0028] The present invention further encompasses an isolation bearing that generally comprises a lower plate for attachment to a base structural member and an upper plate for attachment to a superstructure supported on the base. The lower plate has an upwardly facing bearing surface and the upper plate has a downwardly facing bearing surface, and a roller is

situated between and in rolling contact with the bearing surfaces. At least one of the bearing surfaces has a generally V-shaped profile characterized by a smoothly curved transition zone across an imaginary vertex of the V-shaped profile. Preferably, the transition zone is defined by a damping insert formed of rubber or synthetic viscoelastic material fixed in the crotch of the V-shaped profile. This configuration introduces nonlinear lateral stiffness to the bearing without the use of added nonlinear spring elements. The other bearing surface may be flat, cylindrical, or have its own generally V-shaped profile. Use of a cylindrical surface introduces linear lateral stiffness to the isolation bearing without the use of added linear spring elements. Such an isolation bearing is disclosed and claimed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/994,148, now [[]] abandoned, from which the present application claims benefit as a continuation-in-part.